CSAR Center for Scientific Anomalies Research

P.O. Box 1052 • Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106 • U.S.A.

Director
Marcello Truzzi, Ph.D.

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May 6, 1986

Dr. Jacques F. Vallee
2683 Hyde Street
San Francisco, CA 94109

Dear Dr. Vallee:

It has been some time since we have been in touch, but I hope to renew acquaintances. I see that you are a scheduled invited speaker for our upcoming meeting of the Society for Scientific Exploration (I am on its Council). So, we should meet again then. I look forward to hearing your talk and discussing a number of things with you around that time.

You may recall that we first met at Anton LaVey's house. Anton told me some years ago that you had written some sort of history of Satanism. I wonder if I might somehow borrow or obtain a copy of that from you. I have again become ivolved with some research in this area (I would be glad to send you a bibliography of related materials if you would like one), and your manuscript would be great interest to me. (By the way, as you may know, Art Lyons is revising his book on Satanism for a new edition and has been gathering much new material for inclusion. Have you met Art?)

As I am sure you know, Allan Hynek died last week. He will be much missed.

I do hope we can communicate further. What sort of things re anomalies are you currently interested in? Because of my wide network of correspondents, etc., I may be of some help.

Since my son Gianni is a computer programmer/consultant in Los Angeles, I now get to California more often than I used to. Do you get down that way? If I recall correctly, you may have business interests down there.

I hope to hear from you.
Cordially,

Marcello

Marcello Truzzi

P.S. My home address gets mail to me most quicky. It is: 1323 Culver Road; Ann Arbor, MI 48103.

Publications:
CSAR Bulletin
Zetetic Scholar

DOCUMATICA
1550 California Street
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San Francisco, CA 94109

May 30th, 1986

Dear Marcello:

I was delighted to receive your letter and to read that you would be attending the SSE meeting.

My research continues to involve both active investigation in the field and attempts to construct methodology to deal with anomalies. My presentation before SSE will deal with the latter, since I am not quite ready to publish my field work.

A few years ago I did write a manuscript placing the occult tradition in a paranormal framework; I intend to return to this unfinished piece and complete it as a book. Accordingly I would prefer not to show it in its

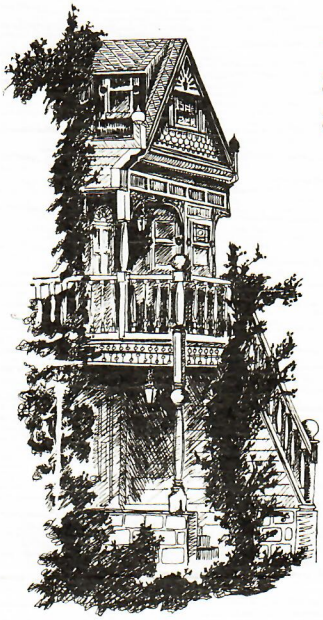
present, incomplete form. As I make progress with the new material, however, I would greatly benefit from your comments.

I recall meeting Art Lyons once, over 10 years ago. I am sure he is unaware that I am a fan of his detective novels.

Looking forward to seeing you in San Francisco,

With best regards,

Jacques



1550 California Street
Suite 6L
San Francisco, Ca 94109

21 July 1988

Dear Marcello:

I thought you'd be amused by the enclosed correspondence, prompted by an interview recently published in the MUFON Journal: I seem to have hit a sensitive nerve.

Also enclosed is an article about Saint Aybard. Perhaps I will get into less trouble if I publish all my work in latin from now on!

It would be nice to see you if you happen to be in the Bay Area in the future.

With warm regards,

Jacques

(home - unlisted: 415/474-8445)

To the editor,

The subject of UFOs is one that can demonstrably addle the brains of otherwise intelligent, curious people. For me, the case of Jacques Vallee offers a particularly touching example. My interest in UFOs began in 1964 with a daylight sighting which lasted roughly three minutes. One of the first books I purchased after that event, in an attempt to understand the meaning of what I had observed, was Vallee's Anatomy of a Phenomenon, a book that remains extremely important in the literature. I eagerly awaited his next work (Challenge to Science) but was sadly disappointed. It seemed to me to be a fairly irrelevant critique of the work of Aime Michel, and I wondered why the book had been written in the first place; it has since been dropped from most lists of serious works on the subject of UFOs. Passport to Magonia was next, but a strange tone now seemed to be present - an odd confluence of UFO case studies, free-wheeling speculation and folklore of obviously uncertain authenticity. The resulting stew was nearly indigestible. Eventually Messengers of Deception arrived, a work that for me finally moved into the area of incoherence. A paranoid tone was its sine qua non, while clear, logical, scientific consistency had all but disappeared. Originally I had regarded Vallee as something of a younger Allen Hynek, but now he seemed more like a Gallic John Keel.

Messengers of Deception was a truly bizarre book. It's basic problem can be stated this way: Let us say a man awakes in the night hearing whispered voices. He wonders if it's a burglar, a ghost, or if he's just "hearing things." Should he phone the police, should he summon an exorcist or possibly make an appointment with a psychiatrist? Vallee intervenes and announces that it makes virtually no difference which solution to the problem he entertains. The whispered voices are "a control system." The nature of this "control system" and its ultimate purposes are all but irrelevant; the most important fact is that it is a control system. Thus the man is offered no help with regard to his problem as he perceives it - are thieves stealing from him or endangering his life? Is he having some kind of mental breakdown? Are there "extra-terrestrial ghosts" in his life, with their own possibly disturbing agenda? He needs to know! But Vallee, the UFO expert, offers only dark and contrived hints about deception and control and goes about his business. Messengers of Deception was a sad and dispiriting performance.

And now comes Vallee's interview in the May MUFON Journal. Researchers like Dr. David Jacobs and myself among others are assailed (annonymously) for not possessing certain academic credentials, and for "messing with the minds of impressionable witnesses" in UFO cases. Philip Klass is even praised indirectly

for having helped to "clean up" our abduction research. Now, I have always been open to helpful criticism from any source, and am sorry Vallee never bothered to contact me personally, if he had reservations about my work. I am saddened that a one-time colleague chose to adopt the Klassic method of skipping the bother of interviews and discussion simply to attack a perceived adversary in print. I do not have to defend myself against Vallee's uninformed charges. I will not list the psychiatrists and psychologists I use as consultants in my research, as it is unlikely that Vallee, a hermetic computer expert and sci fi novelist, knows much about the mental health field in general, and its New York practioners in particular. But it is worth mentioning that in addition, three psychologists, two psychiatrists and roughly ten psychotherapists have come to me, as abductees, for hypnosis, and are extremely supportive of my work. Vallee's interview read, alas, like the bitter retrospective view of a man who started well but is ending badly. He is obviously a highly intelligent and gifted man. His first book nearly a quarter of a century back made a major and lasting contribution. His apparent loss to serious UFO research is truly unfortunate.

Sincerely,

Budd Hopkins

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N.Y, N.Y. 10011

May 27, 1988
607 E. Gravers la.
Wyndmoor, PA 19118

Editor
MUFON Journal
103 Oldtowne Road
Sequin, Texas 78155-4099

To the Editor,

I have made it a policy to ignore criticisms about me if they are frivolous or ill-informed. But I was saddened, if not surprised, to read Jacques Vallee's remarks about abductions and UFO history in the May issue of the Journal, and I believe that they deserve a reply.

Vallee began as one of the pioneers in UFO research by organizing the facts of sightings into a coherent structure and taxonomy. Over the years, however, he has increasingly abandoned empirical evidence on which to base his theories in favor of pyramiding baseless theories upon theories so that we have been offered entire books based upon groundless and irrelevant speculation. If there is one thing that we have learned in UFO research it is that one cannot simply "think" our way to a solution of the mystery. This is a scientific problem whose life's blood is the flow of factual evidence. It is through careful analyses of the facts that our knowledge is advanced. We must be careful not to force our facts into a predetermined schemes. This usually leads to intellectual dead ends.

Vallee's comments about the use of hypnosis in abduction research unfortunately follow this pattern. Instead of attempting to find out what the actual methodologies employed by "engineers, artists, and college professors" are, he predicates his remarks on a fallacious construct of his own manufacture which suggests that Budd Hopkins and I are "untrained in this matter" and that we "mess with the minds of impressionable witnesses." Although I cannot speak for other investigators, if Vallee had bothered to ask either Budd or me about our methods he might have discovered that we both seek the advice and counsel of psychologists and psychiatrists and that all of my subjects are meticulously briefed both verbally and in written form on the negatives and pitfalls of memory recovery through hypnosis. I work closely with a psychologist who has also seen several of my subjects independently. I have had three individuals referred to me by psychotherapists and I have instructed other psychotherapists on how to conduct hypnotic regressions of abductees.

I understand that Vallee is well intentioned and I applaud his concern for abductees' welfare, but his lack of knowledge in this area makes him a naive captive of debunkers' charges, as evidenced by his ill-informed remarks about Phil Klass having to "clean up" after UFO researchers.

I am sorry to find the same attitude in his statement about UFO history and historians. Vallee states that his research was a "key factor" in changing J. Allen Hynek's mind about UFOs toward a more positive stance. This of course might well have been a factor but interviews with Hynek and Hynek's own analysis of his changing viewpoints do not admit to it being a "key" factor. Vallee says that the most important events were occurring behind the scenes and points to Hynek's work with Fred Beckman and Bill Powers as an example. While it is true that this story remains to be told, Hynek's transformation was part of a process of historical change that began quite a bit before he met Vallee. As is well known, as early as 1953 Hynek began to think that the subject needed more scientific investigation. By 1964, according to his oft-stated admission, the Socorro case had fairly well convinced him of the UFOs anomalous nature. By 1966 he was emerging as a public advocate for that stance.

Vallee also states that because he "found no convincing scientific evidence for the exitence of UFOs,...he remained skeptical." If by this Vallee means that Hynek was skeptical of the existence of UFOs as artifacts of extraterrestrial intelligence, then he is entirely in error. Hynek devoted the last fifteen years of his life to persuing the UFO mystery. His personal theories stated many times to me and to others in private conversation about the origin of UFOs were not only based on their nonterrestrial origin, but they were considerably more "far out" than most of his contemporaries were willing to go. All of his conversations with me and many others point to the fact that there was not a shred of doubt in Hynek's mind about the anomalous and nonterrestrial origin of UFOs.

Vallee says that James McDonald's public stance in some way led to the establishment of the Condon Committee. Once again, this is not borne out by the facts. McDonald did not "go public" until well after the February, 1966, O'Brien Committee had recommended that universities study the UFO problem. Nor did he go public until after the April 1966 House Hearings in which the Secretary of the Air Force was urged to implement these recommendations. When he finally did go public the processes which led to the Condon Committee were already well underway.

Vallee is puzzled by why historians have concentrated on the House hearings instead of what was happening with Hynek's study group. In my opinion when a committee of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress holds public hearings on unidentified flying objects that directly leads to the establishment of the most important scientific committee to

study the subject to date, and that in turn leads directly to the decision by the United States Air Force to abandon its official UFO investigations project, then these events just might assume some importance in UFO histories of the period.

Jacques Vallee has the capabilities of making major contributions to UFO research but this can be accomplished only by grounding himself in facts and evidence. I certainly hope that he will rejoin the ranks of his fellow researchers engaged in productive investigation and analyses and eschew the shoot-from-the-hip style that he has apparently adopted. It is unbecoming of so worthy a colleague.

Sincerely

David M. Jacobs
Temple University

1550 California Street
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San Francisco, Ca 94109

26 June 1988

Editor, MUFON Journal
103 OldTowne Road
Sequin, Texas 78155-4099

To the Editor:

The recent publication of my interview with Linda Strand in the MUFON Journal has elicited violent reactions from Budd Hopkins and David Jacobs, although neither one of them was personally taken to task in the interview. Their reaction is remarkable for what it reveals about the current state of the UFO research community, of which both men are influential members. While UFO research needs to attract the open participation of professional scientists, it reacts to the first hint of criticism by lashing out in personal attacks against the person voicing the concern, instead of addressing the issue at hand. I believe we should all be worried about this problem, and we should take steps to correct it.

David Jacobs assures us that in his hypnotic practice he works closely with a psychologist, and that both he and Budd seek the advice and counsel of professional psychiatrists. Budd is angry at me for not asking him personally to explain his methods. Both of these arguments miss the point. In my view, the regression should never be conducted by individuals who hold strong personal beliefs about the nature of the experience they are investigating, and who are searching for confirmation of their specific interpretation of the phenomenon.

Too often UFO researchers have used hypnosis to force the phenomenon into a preconceived pattern. For instance, in 1987 Budd Hopkins appeared with Lee Spiegel on the WABC television program "Good Morning New York." He brought with him one of the witnesses he had studied under hypnotic regression, a very sincere young man named Michael Bershad, and he stated in response to questions by Lee and another interviewer: "in this case, the physical examination he went through involved stimulation of nerves down the right leg from his hip..." Yet Bershad repeated several times, on camera: "I'm not sure it happened..." "I'm not sure I was abducted!" What kind of scientific investigation is this?

I am not as naive as Budd Hopkins would like your readers to believe on the use of hypnosis in this research. As a member of the Board of Directors of the Institute for Advanced Psychology I have researched carefully under what minimum standards hypnosis would be acceptable in Court. None of the hypnotic regressions I have seen

coming from the recent series of abduction investigations would meet these standards. I, too, have consulted with several professionals in this area. Their approach has been cautious and extremely skeptical of the type of "evidence" claimed by Hopkins. One M.D. psychiatrist who is trained in the use of hypnosis declined to perform a regression on a witness I brought to him because he felt he knew too much about the UFO phenomenon and had reached a personal conclusion about it, a fact which he felt disqualified him. In another case I am currently investigating, which involves a possible abduction from a car when the witness was a child, the regression in which I participated was conducted by two doctors, with on-camera recording of the entire session and of several physiological variables, but it was felt that professional standards did not permit pursuing the sessions in the absence of a therapy contract with the witness. In view of these concerns on the part of professionals of hypnosis, I am extremely surprised to see that so many UFO researchers, armed only with their enthusiasm, are charging ahead with the kind of exploration into the minds of the witnesses which Hopkins and Jacobs describe.

To close this part of the discussion, let me say again for the record that I believe the "abductees" are telling the truth as they experience it, that there is a genuine phenomenon involved in the abductions (although it is not necessarily extraterrestrial) and that it should be a high-priority concern for our community to develop a clean, reliable, safe way to study it.

Let me now turn to the other points raised in the two letters.

Regarding Budd Hopkins'attacks on Challenge to Science, I can only say that the book went through four mass paperback editions in the U.S. alone after the hardcover had gone out of print, that it was translated into several languages, that it was used as the basis for the often-quoted chapter on UFOs in the Air Force Physics Handbook, where two of my figures are reprinted, and that it was recommended by Margaret Mead as the most important book she had read on the subject. If it has become obsolete after twenty years I can only say, sorry Budd, I'll try to do better next time!

In discussing Hynek's views during the key period of 1963 to 1966 David Jacobs is in the unusual position of a presumably objective professional historian telling me, a witness and participant in the events, what happened in my own life. Allen Hynek invited me to join him at Northwestern University in the Fall of 1963 so that we could work together on the UFO problem. I brought my data-base with me, so that the European UFO files could be confronted with the American data for the first time. I was with him almost daily in the ensuing years, through the Socorro investigation, the arguments with McDonald and the Condon briefings. Several of Allen's position papers were written in collaboration with me and were typed on my typewriter. I still have the handwritten drafts. Today my file of correspondence with him bulges to a barely manageable volume, Yet David never interviewed me about that period. He never consulted my private correspondence, nor did he see the research proposals Hynek and I submitted to the Air Force.

Perhaps it is better to leave things as they are. Although I may decide to publish my own documented account of that phase of UFO research some day, I have no intention of violating Hynek's confidence during our years of collaboration, when we shared many facts and many contacts that have never been made public. I am glad that Dave acknowledges that my intense work with Allen during that period "may have been a factor" in his changing perception of the phenomenon.

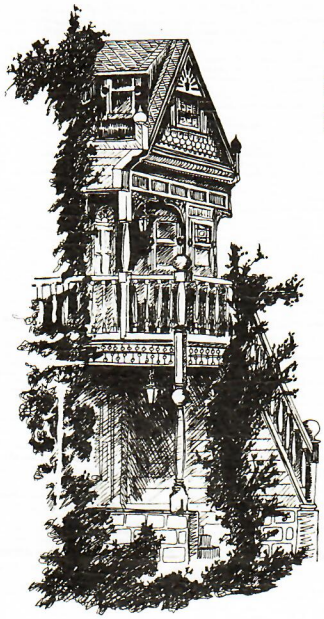
I do agree with Dave that "there was not a shred of doubt in Hynek's mind about the anomalous origin of UFOs." I never said that Hynek thought anything else. I did choose my words carefully during my interview with Linda Strand. If Dave refers to the text he will see that I stated, in the context of those early years with Allen at Northwestern, that he never found convincing evidence for the existence of UFOs. There is no contradiction here. Surely it is possible for a scientist to believe in the anomalous origin of a phenomenon and at the same time to recognize that he does not have the kind of final proof he could take before a committee of the National Academy of Sciences.

Are we in a different situation today?

I respect both Budd and Dave too much to pursue the debate at the level of personal vindictiveness they have unfortunately chosen. In the past I have engaged in lively debates in print with such UFO debunkers as Menzel and Klass, but I have never experienced the kind of venom conveyed by these letters from fellow ufologists. If the intended message is that the contribution I can make in UFO research is not welcome, that message is clearly understood. In their view I should have dropped out after publishing Anatomy of a Phenomenon. The field would certainly be a lot simpler today if we could turn back the clock to 1965. We could all ignore the masses of disturbing historical material brought to light by Passport to Magonia, the psychic implications stressed in Invisible College, and the manipulation of both the UFO groups and some of the sightings exposed in Messengers of Deception.

I can only assure David Jacobs that I have not "increasingly abandoned empirical evidence." It I have the opportunity to continue to publish my work in spite of the antagonism manifested by these two colleagues, perhaps they will eventually agree with me that the phenomenon is more complex, more interesting and more profound than any one of us has ever dreamt. Then, perhaps, the pointless quarrels of today will be forgotten, and we can be friends again, as we should be -- fellow explorers of a reality that dwarfs all of our pet theories.

Jacques Vallee



1550 California Street
Suite 6L
San Francisco, Ca 94109

Dr.Marcello Truzzi
1323 Culver Road
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103

16 October 1989

Dear Marcello:

I am hoping you can help me in a delicate matter that could easily get out of hand if it is not attended to. I am especially sensitive about it because it involves CUFOS, a group with which I would like to maintain cordial relations.

Here is the situation: it seems that you forwarded to Jerome Clark my manuscript of *Confrontations*, which my publisher had sent you at my request on a personal and confidential basis. Apparently Jerry took this as an invitation to write a full review of the book, which I understand is now ready for IUR!

The premature publication of this review may be an embarrassment to everyone since the book will not be published until April 1990, I have already made changes in the manuscript, and I have not even seen galleys yet!

I am flabbergasted that IUR would consider publishing a review of a text that was not submitted to them, and that is circulating privately *as an unpublished, copyrighted manuscript only.* I want to preserve future relationships with our colleagues at CUFOS, but I do feel that publication of a review at this point would be unprofessional, unethical, and possibly illegal as well.

What would be, in your opinion, the best course of action? I have already made Jerry aware of the situation. When galleys are available it is my intention to submit them, on a courtesy basis, to several publications in the field, including IUR.

Hoping you can give me the benefit of
your usual good guidance on this matter,

With best regards,

Jacques

Jacques Vallee

cc: Joe Blades, BALLANTINE

CSAR Center for Scientific Anomalies Research

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Oct. 27, 1989

Dr. Jacques Vallee
1550 California Street
Suite 6L
San Francisco, CA 94109

Dear Jacques,

Forgive my delay in responding to your letter of Oct. 16. More important, I hope that you and your wife came through the earthquake unscathed.

I just got a copy of Jerry Clark's letter to you, so I presume that the matter of your book's being reviewed prematurely in IUR has been dealt with. But maybe I should say something about how this snafu occurred. I got a manuscript from your publisher for purposes of a publicity blurb from me. I was under the impression the book was about to come out very shortly, and nothing in the publisher's letter to me indicated anything about confidentiality. I happened to mention that I thought your new book was an important contribution to the literature when I spoke with Jerry on the phone. He asked me if he might see the manuscript, and I sent it to him. When he later commented to me that he was doing a review of the book, I told him that I had some qualms about this since the exact status of the manuscript was unclear and that I shared it with him for his own personal interest and curiosity. He indicated that he did not think there would be any problem and would be in touch with you about it, too, and there the matter rested for me until I got your letter. When I got in touch with Jerry (who had been out of town), he had already written to you after seeing a copy of your letter to me via someone at CUFOS. Anyway, I hope that all this has produced no problems and that the matter is nicely settled at this point.

Again, I hope all is well with you. I spoke with Anton LaVey the other day, and, since he and his house came through it all without problems and since you (I think) live near him, I trust all is well with you and your own abode.

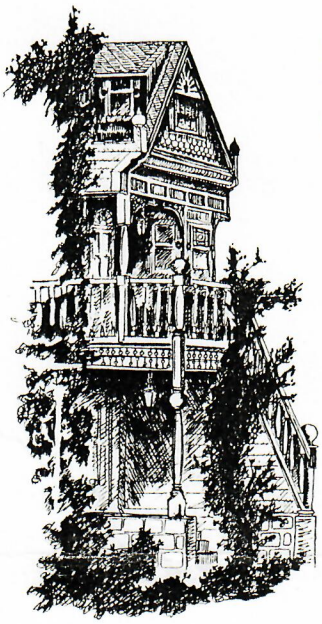
Off the subject but perhaps worth mentioning is that I and Art Lyons (who you may know via Anton), are now completing a book on the use of psychics by law enforcement and government agencies. If you come across information in this area, I hope you might share it with us.

Best wishes,

Marcello

Marcello Truzzi

Publications:
CSAR Bulletin
Zetetic Scholar



Chelsea Square
1475 Polk Street, Suite 149
San Francisco, Calif. 94109

13 March 1990

Jerome Clark
612 North Oscar Avenue
CANBY, MN.56220

Dear Jerry:

Thanks for your letter and for the advance copy of IUR containing your review of *Confrontations*.

As you may know, I seldom respond to book reviews. It is up to the reader to make up his or her mind after seeing both the book and the reviewer's opinion. I have no intention to contribute to the kind of polemics that are currently driving the UFO research field towards destruction. The last episode I have personally experienced, namely the vitriolic attack by Hopkins and Jacobs in the pages of *Mufon*, has left too bad a taste in my mouth.

With best regards,

Jacques

Jacques Vallee

March 17, 1990

Jacques Vallee
Chelsea Square
1475 Polk Street #149
San Francisco, California 94109

Dear Jacques:

Your letter was disappointing but hardly surprising. I had hoped that if my review/essay on your ideas did anything, it would jar you out of your complacency and force you to be answerable, as the rest of us are, to colleagues and critics. No such luck, apparently.

I note that you dismiss as mere "polemics" -- and, moreover, polemics "that are currently driving the UFO research field towards destruction" -- any attempt to correct your gross caricature of what the rest of us are about. From the evidence of *Confrontations*, you have no idea of what the the best ufologists are doing or why they have come to the conclusions they have. Consequently I am saddened when I reflect that *Confrontations* (much of which, to use your words, "left too bad a taste in my mouth") will be far more widely read than my review.

Perhaps one day you will agree that difficult truths are arrived at only through vigorous debate, not through ex cathedra pronouncement and grand speculation which you apparently feel no obligation to defend with relevant arguments and evidence.

Sincerely,

Jerome Clark

7 Aug. 93

1550 California Street
Suite 6 L
San Francisco, Ca 94109

Dear Marcello:

Thanking you for your recent communication,
and with best personal regards,

Jacques

Dr. Jacques Vallee

→ Your reprint is very timely since I am reviewing some old

hoaxes and generally clearing up my files in preparation for leaving a field which has been completely overtaken by wackos.

I do hope we can stay in touch, sub rosa.

Jacques